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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,512	03/04/2002	Jason Chou	12840 B	2129

7590 03/08/2004

CHARLES E. BAXLEY
59 John Street-5th Floor
New York, NY 10038

EXAMINER

RADA, ALEX P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

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DATE MAILED: 03/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,512

Applicant(s)

CHOU, JASON

Examiner

Alex P. Rada

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 9-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The word “practicing” is misspelled throughout the entire application.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon '530 in view of Martin WO '248.

4. Yoon discloses a golf trainer having a base (120) including a first and second end for supporting a ball to be swung or putt by a user (figure 2), a plurality of sensors (166) along the base for sensing a movement of the ball along the base (paragraph 54) as recited in claim 1; the base includes at least one side having a fence (figure 6) disposed and sensors (166) are disposed on the fence and facing toward the base (figure 6) as recited in claim 2; a housing disposed on the second of the base for supporting sensors (162) as recited in claim 6. Yoon does not expressly disclose a displayer device and for sending the treated signals to the displayer device.

Martin teaches a golf-putting simulator having a display device for displaying the visual representation of the progress of the ball following the putting strike with the representation of

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the target (page 3, paragraphs 11-18). By having the progress of a ball following the putting strike on a display, one of ordinary skill in the art would provide a more accurate assessment of a users performance. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Yoon to include a displayer device and for sending the treated signals to the displayer device as taught by Martin. To do would provide a more accurate assessment of a users performance.

5. Claims 3-5 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon '530 in view of Martin WO '248 as applied to claims 1 and 6 above, and further in view of MacLean '256.

6. Yoon in view of Martin disclose the claimed invention as discussed above except for a plurality of bars secured together as recited in claim 3; the first and second bars include a tongue on the first bar extended therefrom and a second bar having a cavity engaged into the first bar for securing the first bar and the second bar as recited in claims 4 and 9; the first bar includes a first terminal disposed in the cavity and the second bar includes a second terminal disposed on the tongue for engaging with the first terminal when the tongue is engaged into the cavity of the first bar as recited in claims 5 and 10.

MacLean teaches a plurality of separate panels each having oppose left and right side rails removeably secured, in which the examiner interprets to be a functional equivalent to applicant's fastening means. At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include different types of engaging and fastening means because Applicant has not disclosed that the first and second bars include a tongue on the first bar extended therefrom and a second bar having a cavity engaged into the first

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bar for securing the first bar and the second bar as recited in claims 4 and 9; the first bar includes a first terminal disposed in the cavity and the second bar includes a second terminal disposed on the tongue for engaging with the first terminal when the tongue is engaged into the cavity of the first bar as recited in claims 5 and 10 provides an advantage or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with the equivalent engaging and fastening means as taught by MacLean because having any type of engaging and fastening means provides the same function of securing a plurality of pieces together.

7. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoon '530 in view of Martin WO '248 and MacLean '256.

8. Yoon in view of Martin and McLean disclose the claimed invention as discussed above except for the processor device is secured onto the at least one side panel of the housing. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Yoon/Martin/McLean to secure the processor onto the at least one side panel, since it has been held that rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 7-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Archie '830, Kim '947, '045, and '200, Petermeier '648, Dooley '687 and '013, Shih '462, Fowler '027, Kunita '469, and Arnold '874 all disclose different types of golf putting practice devices.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alex P. Rada whose telephone number is 703-308-7135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 08:00-16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Hughes can be reached on 703-308-1806. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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